

MAFIA SLAYS ITS DICTATOR.

Diconza Had Awakened Enmity in Secret Societies and Vendetta Was Revived to Kill.

SHOT FROM AMBUSH.

Williamsburg Political Leader's Two Assassins Do Their Work Quietly and Readily Escaped.

Francisco Diconza, a political leader among the naturalized Italians of the Williamsburg district of Brooklyn and prominent in the affairs of Italian secret societies, was shot and killed from ambush near his home at No. 540 Driggs avenue at midnight. The two assassins escaped.

The murder is believed to have been the result of a plot to do away with him for secret reasons. The police mention the Mafia.

Other than that Diconza was possibly the victim of enemies the motive for the murder is a mystery.

Diconza was so thoroughly interested in political affairs and in the business of the Italian secret societies that he was not compelled to work. His income from those sources was sufficient to provide well for his wife and three children.

In politics he was generally a Democrat, being able to throw a large Italian vote at each election. In his secret society affairs he was a dictator, so those who know him best say. And through his management of their business he made many enemies.

The police say that during the last year they have been warned of the rejuvenation of the Mafia, which had been dormant for a long time. But the importation of thousands of Italians from Sicily and southern Italy, many of whom had been prominent in the councils of the original Mafia Society in their European home, had revived it. Several of the Italians who have landed at Williamsburg in the last year are said to have become so prominent in the European Mafia that the Italian Government deported them.

During the last two or three months there have been many meetings of the Williamsburg Mafia, which does not go by that name any more, and in some of these secret meetings it is said that factions became evident and that dissensions held separate meetings. Dominico Mele, thirty-five years old, who lives at No. 539 Metropolitan avenue, was arrested late this morning in Newark as he was trying to escape from a street. He had been followed by Williamsburg detectives, who had heard that Mele had threatened to kill Diconza and that he had had a fight with him yesterday.

HURLED INTO R. T. TUNNEL.

Restaurant Man Was Trying to Board Car When Foot Caught.

George Hillen, fifty years old, a restaurant-keeper, at No. 735 Sixth avenue, attempted to board an Amsterdam avenue car at Sixty-sixth street and Broadway this morning when the car started suddenly, catching Mr. Hillen's foot between the car and the fence built around the rapid transit tunnel excavation. He was hurled over the fence down into the tunnel, a distance of thirty feet. At the Roosevelt Hospital it was found that Mr. Hillen's skull was fractured and two ribs broken. He will probably die.

M. J. Heffernan, the motorman of the car, was arrested.

FIRE ON MOHAWK; \$75,000 DAMAGE.

Blaze on Big Freighter at Her Pier in New London Was Quickly Subdued by the Fire Department.

Word was received today at the pier of the Central Vermont Railway Company, at the foot of Market street, this city, that fire damaged the company's big steel freight steamer Mohawk and her cargo to the extent of \$75,000 at the pier in New London, Conn.

About 90 per cent. of the freight on board from New York was got out unhurt.

The blaze started in some pile on the main deck at where it was confined. The New London fire department and the flames under control in forty minutes.

The City of Lawrence will take the Mohawk's place in the regular trip to New York tonight.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ALBANY TO NEW YORK
S.S. ALBANY, Capt. J. H. Smith, left Albany for New York at 10:30 a.m. today.

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ESCAPE CUT OFF, TWO DIE OF SUFFOCATION AT FIRE.

Man and Woman Lose Their Lives in Eureka Bedding Factory—Complaint Made About Appliances for Escape.



FIGHTING FIRE AT EUREKA BEDDING FACTORY.

Suffocation caused the death of a woman and a man in a fire in the factory of the Eureka Bedding Company, at No. 304 Pearl street, this morning. Four other women were badly injured by jumping from an upper floor, and many others had narrow escapes.

The Eureka company's establishment is four stories high and was packed with inflammable material. Although there is no certainty about the origin of the fire it is believed that it started on the ground floor in a stock of stair pads, which are made of cotton and cheesecloth and are as susceptible to fire as gunpowder.

There were twenty girls, five boys and three men employed in the factory. Of these all but seven worked on the ground floor. There were four girls at work on the top floor and three girls and one man on the third floor.

Their Escape Cut Off.
No warning reached those on the upper floors until the flames had cut off escape by way of the staircases. Eugene Kassler, passing through the hall on the second floor, found fire swirling up the well formed by the stairways. He ran up and sounded the alarm on the upper floors.

There were no fire-escapes on the building, but near windows in the front and rear were patent arrangements of wire which are supposed to serve in the absence of the employees. Either the existence of these arrangements was not known, or fear prompted forgetfulness, for none of the employees made any attempt to use them. Those on the ground

floor got out through rear entrances, and those on the upper floors jumped.

There is a one-story extension in the rear of the factory building running back of No. 244 Water street. It was to the roof of this extension that the fear-stricken employees leaped.

One of the first on the scene of the fire was Albert Rogers, foreman for Hinesdale & Rogers, at No. 312 Water street. He climbed to the roof of the extension and assisted women out of the windows on the second floor, where the fire was fiercest. In doing this he was slightly burned.

Ethel McGrath, of No. 441 East Seventeenth street, was the first to jump from the top floor. She remained in the building until her clothes caught fire and were frightfully burned. She was taken to Hudson Street Hospital.

Two Women Suffocated.
Emma Boltker, of Winfield, L. I., and John Lynch, of No. 124 Goerck street, were suffocated on the second floor, where their bodies were found after the flames were extinguished. So suddenly had the fire come upon them that they had no time to make their way to the windows.

Katie Wadsworth, of No. 1371 Atlantic third floor, jumped to the roof of the extension, falling in such a way as to injure herself seriously. Florence Martell, of No. 784 Fourth avenue, Brooklyn; Tillie Mantell, of No. 3 Hester street, and May Howard, of No. 125 Third place, Brooklyn, leaped from the top floor after Ethel McGrath took her plunge. All were injured, but none seriously.

No Warning, She Says.
Florence Martell said that no warning

was given of the fire. The first she and two other girls at work in a room knew of it the place was full of smoke and the hallways were all on fire. A girl on the third floor attempted to jump down the elevator shaft, as escape up or down the stairs was cut off, but the elevator man, who was at the ground floor, persuaded her to wait, ran his car up and took her to the fourth floor, from which he escaped with her to the roof and thence to an adjoining building.

Way of escape by the roof was open to all of the employees, but beyond these two none seemed to think of it.

John Bokorney, of No. 906 East One Hundred and Sixty-first street, foreman of the factory, said that in his opinion the fire was caused by a match on the floor.

"I heard a snap," said Bokorney, "like that of a parlor match. There was a spark on the floor near the foot of a boy who was pulling cotton, and the next thing I knew the whole place was on fire. There wasn't time for us to give warning to those above. We had to flee for our lives."

The firemen extinguished the blaze without particular difficulty. It was one of the smokiest fires in the downtown district for months and caused intense excitement along the water front.

From a distance it appeared as if two or three city blocks were on fire.

May Be Prosecuted.

The absence of fire-escapes from the building may lead to the prosecution of the owners. The law provides that permanent fire-escapes shall be maintained on all buildings in which persons are employed. Acting Battalion Chief Hogan said after the fire that the use of flimsy portable affairs did not constitute compliance with the law.

THE RIVER'S DEAD IDENTIFIED.

Bodies of Woman and Two Men Who Met Death by Drowning Recognized at the Morgue.

The body of the woman found yesterday in the East River at the foot of Seventy-sixth street, was this morning identified at the Morgue as that of Fannie Maras, of No. 31 East Fifty-first street.

The identification was made by the company's son Frank. He said his mother had been slightly drowned. She disappeared in February. The woman, who was fifty-two years old, wore on her left hand a wedding ring engraved "F. H."

The body of the man which was found in the East River at the foot of York street on Sunday was also identified this morning. It is that of John J. Murphy, of No. 100 West 100th street.

The identification was made by the son of the deceased, Frederick Murphy, who lives at No. 100 West 100th street.

Robert Murphy, of No. 100 West 100th street, and Frederick Murphy, of No. 100 West 100th street, were also identified.

VETERAN BLUECOAT DEAD.
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TELLS OF STRANGE MIDSEA TRAGEDY.

The Pontiac Saw a Wave-Racked Fate Is Shrouded in Mystery.

Bringing a tale of a mysterious tragedy in midocean the British tramp Pontiac came into port this morning from Trieste.

Early in the morning of April 29 the Pontiac came up with a detailed schooner that seemed to have been recently the victim of wind and wave and fire. As the Pontiac had experienced no bad weather and as it was evident the schooner had suffered its damage within twenty-four hours, the officers of the steamer were puzzled.

The steamer was in 32° longitude, when two boats had been seen, one of which was still trailing smoke, but which was further away. The two boats were seen to be in the distance, and the men found that the schooner's smoke had been seen as it had been seen by the steamer.

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BOY IMPALED ON IRON PICKET FENCE

Ten-Year-Old Richard Wellman Likely to Die from Injuries Received While Playing Tag at School.

While playing tag to-day before the bell called him into school, ten-year-old Richard Wellman fell on an iron picket fence and was impaled and hung there for several minutes before being released. He is in St. Mary's Hospital, Brooklyn, and will probably die.

Wellman lives with his parents at No. 125 Sixth street, Brooklyn, and is a pupil of School No. 4, in Park avenue near Fifth street. Near the school is the German Reformatory, where a number of the boys engaged in a game of tag and one of the boys, who was impaled, was Richard Wellman.

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Meat Not Necessary

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ESPECIALLY FOR SUMMER.

Dr. Cyrus Edson says: "Other foods will take the place of meat."

Dr. George F. Shrady says: "Man can readily live without it."

Dr. Wilde says: "Live on cereals and fruits, and learn how to live and enjoy life."

Dr. Felix L. Oswald says: "The strongest men of the world do not eat meat."

Prof. H. W. Wiley, Chief Chemist of Department of Agriculture, Washington, says: "Men nourished on cereals are capable of the hardest and most enduring manual labor."

If you keep meat off your breakfast table you can work better, play better, and sleep better.

Quaker Oats is the logical substitute for meats—which has in one package, at a cost of 10 cents, more nutriment than a piece of meat that costs \$1.00.

Made only from the choicest grain, manufactured and packed with the greatest care—Nothing left undone to insure its absolute purity.

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